

Director's Corner



Welcome to July! First, I want to take this opportunity to congratulate AFRTS on their 75th Anniversary. AFN's legacy of providing news, command information and entertainment to men and women overseas is well known. Moving forward we must continue that legacy as we continue supporting the front line service members and overseasbased families. To do this, DMA must continue to grow and innovate as we respond to the changing needs of our clients.

Your dedication to the mission continues to impress our clients and attract new ones. Demand for our expertise and support has never been higher and that

means streamlining our processes and aligning resources to meet the mission.

One significant change we're making is separating AFRTS from Defense Media Operations (DMO). This allows us to better focus our support to our overseas clients and customers.

I am dedicated to keeping you informed about changes within DMA, as we plan, execute and weigh them and how those decisions impact you. Supervisors and managers are also there to answer your questions, so don't hesitate to ask. If we are to achieve our One Vision, One Voice strategy, it is important to be transparent and

give you a clear view of what changes we're implementing at DMA HQ.

I'm happy to say we are expanding the services DMA offers to our clients. One way we're doing that is with our drone pilot program. I was able to join our pilots as they did their final training on drone operations and aerial photography. We currently have six FAA-certified pilots and six more in the pipeline.

If you haven't checked out DefenseTV, you really need to take a look. This is one of our fastest growing platforms. We are continuing to expand by partnering with organizations such as the WWI Commemoration

Committee, Vietnam War Commission, Warrior Games and all the combatant commands. The DefenseTV app is available for Apple or Android operating systems.

In addition to the DefenseTV's success, our clients are heavily invested in social media and are always on the lookout for new and better ways to see the impact of their messages. In the coming months you will hear and see more on this topic.

As we continue to grow and expand, never forget that you are DMA's most valuable resource and I'm proud of all you do!

Kay B. Shaphard



Meetings, meetings and more meetings. Have you ever wondered why your supervisor, component head or command leadership have SO many meetings? What in the world are they talking about in all of these meetings?

Believe me, meetings are not my favorite way to spend my days here at the Defense Media Activity, but I have to be honest, meetings (well, most meetings) prove to be very important and in all actuality, are quite productive.

Most meetings, whether they're between two people or 20 people, should be convened with an objective or outcome decided upon prior to coming together. At DMA, one reason the leadership conducts weekly meetings is to ensure the changes being made throughout the organization are implemented properly and the changes are

leading us down the path to truly become the essential communication resource for America's Defense community (DMA vision right here, my friends -- did you recognize?).

Change is important within an organization and at DMA, this is especially true. Over the past few years, with the implementation of the One-Vision, One-Voice strategy, changes are being made to streamline processes, realize efficiencies and, most importantly, take care of the organization's number-one resource ... people!

"Change is hard.
But change doesn't have to be permanent."

Here's a great example for you. Not too long ago, a decision was made to combine Production and AFRTS to form the Defense Media Operations component, now known as DMO. The change, although a great idea and a great way to streamline processes, was not the best for the people. Because of this, another decision was

made to separate the two once again, so that the people would be better served. Taking risks and making mistakes are not bad things. It's how you grow as an organization.

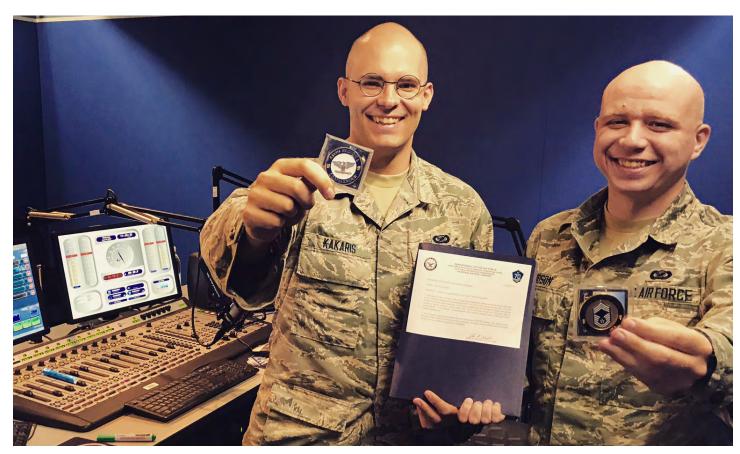
Even though the decision to once again separate DMO and AFRTS has been made, great ideas and initiatives were born from the short relationship; training and the sharing of what DMO Fort Meade is doing across DMA. As I write this, teams from DMO are providing training to our brothers and sisters across the pond. These shared training sessions allow for consistency across the DMA brand, while capitalizing on talent, expertise and experience.

Change is hard. But change doesn't have to be permanent. Changes that don't meet the objective or that cause previously unidentified second- and thirdorder effects should be recognized as soon as possible. People cannot be afraid to stand up and identify when a change is not in the best interest of the organization. Why? Because leadership really does listen.

As we move forward at DMA, the future is exciting.

On the cover: Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Zachary Shea, American Forces Network Bahrain operations manager, holds training on radio operations recently at AFN Bahrain. (Courtesy photo)

AFN Europe



Airman 1st Class Matthew Kakarais and A1C Sean Hudson, American Forces Network Europe radio hosts, show off the certificate and coins they earned from Col. Shan B. Nuckols, Commnder of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations 5th Field Investigations Region, for a promotion they did for AFOSI. Nuckols cited Hudson and Kakaris as key players in the unit's MAJCOM-wide recruiting campaign, saying their efforts made a difference for the future of the Air Force Office of Special Investigations. Kakaris and Hudson host "The Midday Flight," a USAFE-focused live radio program airing each weekday in communities served by AFN Aviano, AFN Benelux, AFN Incirlik, AFN Kaiserslautern, AFN Spangdahlem and AFN United Kingdom. (Courtesy photos)





# **AFNE Team Conducts Mobile Radio Training Course**

A homegrown American Forces Network Europe Mobile Training Team is conducted a "Live Radio Workshop" recently at AFN Kaiserslautern. AFN Europe's Eagle Radio Godfather, Mr. Gary Bautell, is leading three teams of people in designing and delivering an intermediate live radio training course.

The goal of these workshops is to teach AFNE producers how to employ the Eagle Playbook, the AFRTS Standard for Live Radio Shows and their own personal creativity to create more compelling live radio programs to use as platforms for solving key clients' problems.

Staff Sgt. Eli Rios and Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Christopher Snider from AFN Benelux and Staff Sgt Ben Burgess from AFN Kaiserslautern comprise the first team to complete and deliver their 3-day training program. They will collect feedback and lessons learned from this week's workshop, revise their workshop for the next iteration and share this information with the other two teams.

**DINFOS DINFOS** 



Cadence, Rod Foliente's service dog, and Rod Foliente, an Intermediate Photojournalism Course instructor, stands in the second floor hallway of the Defense Information School on Fort Meade May 15, 2017. Cadence has become a welcome addition to the DINFOS family since Foliente brought her to DINFOS on April 4, 2017. (U.S. Army photo/Sgt. James M. Griffin)

# **DINFOS** warmly welcomes service dog to the family

Army Sgt. James Griffin, Defense Information School

One day at the Defense Information School on Fort Meade, Rod Foliente, an instructor, was leaning against a desk and talking with a student about the merits of b-roll video footage for storytelling. Other students, eating bagels, sat in a semicircle around him. Among them, watching her human, sat a well-groomed golden retriever named Cadence.

Cadence is Foliente's service dog. She arrived at the school April 4 as the newest member of the DINFOS family.

The appearance of Cadence surprised a number of people at first, but she quickly became part of the fabric of the school's community.

Foliente, a thin man with short dark hair, said the story of how Cadence came to be part of DINFOS is a long one. It begins well before she appeared in the halls of the school.

In October of 2013, he and his family walked into the Warrior Canine Connection center. They had been two times before, Foliente said. This time, however, they were greeted by someone new. Cadence rushed into the room and flopped

onto the floor in front of the family. They petted her enthusiastically and cooed over her in a swirl of happiness. He prayed that she would be his dog.

Minutes later, he found out his prayer was answered.

as a

Over the

"I still think "I kind of view it's a dream Cadence sometimes when miracle I come to work for me," and Cadence is he said. with me."

course of a year, Cadence became part of Foliente's life, Foliente said. He took her

everywhere he could.

In late 2014, he transitioned out of the Army. He took a civilian teaching job at DINFOS.

He emailed the commandant and asked for permission to bring Cadence to work. The commandant gave his full support.

Feeling fully supported by the leadership of DINFOS, he brought Cadence to work the very next day.

"I still think it's a dream sometimes when I come to work and Cadence is with me," he said.

Cadence was warmly welcomed.

Stephanie Hatcher, a fellow instructor, has also welcomed Cadence into her life at work.

She knew Foliente had a service dog, she said, but she had not met her.

One day, she was sitting at her desk working quietly. She thought she

> was alone until she heard a jingling sound. Confused. she stood up and looked around the divider

between her desk and Foliente's. She discovered Cadence sitting under Foliente's desk.

"She is a beautiful dog, really friendly, really kind," Hatcher said.

It wasn't long before Hatcher could see a change in the class and Foliente.

Foliente has become more cheerful. Hatcher said. Having Cadence has made the whole classroom brighter. Whether it is the students' reactions to Cadence or Foliente's new smile, it is a wonderful change.

When Foliente was coaching students, they would often move their chairs so they could see what was being worked on, Hatcher said. Now, they move their chairs

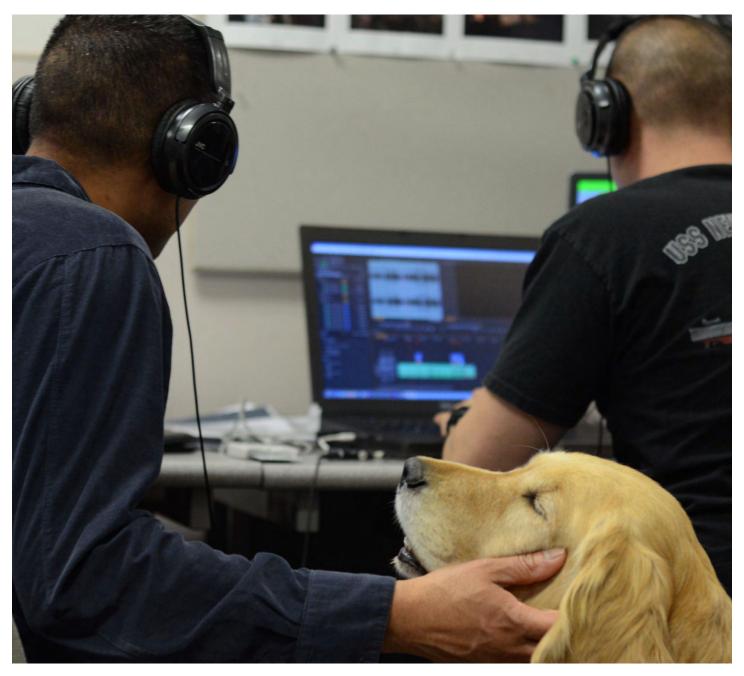
so Cadence can sit under their desks while Foliente teaches.

"She has become a normal jokes, Foliente said with part of our office," Hatcher a smile. said.

Cadence may be a new addition to the staff of DINFOS, but to Foliente she has always belonged at the school

The only thing Cadence hasn't improved is his

"So, that's the down side of it," he said. "So now, people have to suffer my bad jokes all the time."



Cadence, a service dog, provides comfort to Rod Foliente, an Intermediate Photojournalism Course instructor, as he coaches students at Defense Information School on Fort Meade May 15, 2017. Cadence has become a welcome addition to the DINFOS family since Foliente brought Cadence to DINFOS on April 4, 2017. (Photo by Army Sgt. James M. Griffin)

DINFOS

# **DINFOS Sharpens Reserve Skills For Annual Mission**

Bob Beyer, Defense Information School

Thanks to DINFOS, the 356th Broadcast Operations Detachment is more prepared to take on their annual training mission this month. The DINFOS Broadcast Operations and Maintenance Department conducted inhouse Mobile Training Team (MTT) instruction for the Fort Meade Army Reserve unit.

The eleven members of the 356th BOD were trained in the various aspects of their MOS skills. In the morning, the Visual Information Equipment Operator-Maintainers were given Basic Troubleshooting Theory and the fundamentals of an audio control board. Later that afternoon, they reviewed system diagrams and installation practices. They also covered transmission system flow and troubleshooting.

The six Broadcast Specialists and their Detachment Commander, Captain Brett Wucher, received initial or refresher radio skills training. For one trainee, SPC Marshall Collins, who has not come to the school yet, it was an eye opener for the large amount of training he will be seeing in the future.

Along with basic Radio Skills operational exercises for all operators, on-air operational philosophy and social media training was given to those with radio experience to give added support to their upcoming mission. The Detachment NCOIC received guidance in handling the balancing of multiple field operational tasks to ensure the completion of all mission needs. The 356th BOD Detachment Commander and their NCOIC both stated the training was exactly what they needed and they felt more prepared to execute their upcoming mission, which began the day after their DINFOS MTT.







Jim Gilbert, the deputy director of the Defense Information School Directorate of Training, is recognized for his dedication and volunteer work to the Francis Scott Key Chapter of the Association of United States. The recognition was part of the Chapter's Army Birthday/ Flag Day Breakfast at Burba Lake on Fort Meade. On hand to present tokens of appreciation and recognition are Mary Jane Jernigan, the Maryland State President of AUSA and Matt Hauser, the current Chapter president. Gilbert served as president of the Francis Scott Key Chapter of AUSA from 2000 until 2016. The U.S. Flag, presented to Mr. Gilbert by Mr. Hauser, was flown over Fort McHenry on Memorial Day. The Honorable John Sarbanes, the U.S. Congressman for the Maryland 3rd District, provided remarks for the breakfast. (Department of Defense photos/Rivers Johnson)

## Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Zachary "DJ Butta" Shea

Currently Stationed: AFN Bahrain

Hometown: Born in Point Pleasant, NJ and raised in Cortland, NY. Go NY Giants!

Time in service: 6 years

Hobbies: With this type of job, who has time to have a hobby [laughs]? When I do get some down time you'll find me playing video games, the guitar, or playing with my two dogs.

Married: Yes

Kids: Not yet (see Hobbies)







"There's so many great parts to my job that I love but I especially like interacting with a broad scope of civilian and military personnel. Ultimately, I'm aiming to make Chief or become a public affairs officer."

AFN Bahrain



Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Rebekah David, assigned to American Forces Network Bahrain, interviews Capt. Darren B. Guenther, commanding officer of Naval Support Activity Bahrain, and a Fleet and Family Support Center employee about the local culture and the Holy month of Ramadan. (U.S. Navy photo/Chief Mass Communication Specialist Sabrina Parker)



Capt. Corey Howes, commanding officer of Naval Support Activity Bahrain, presents Interior Communications Electrician 1st Class David Pagan, assigned to Fleet Support Detachment Bahrain, with a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal during an awards ceremony. (U.S. Navy photo/Chief Mass Communication Specialist Sabrina Parker)



Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Michael Harari (center), assigned to American Forces Network Bahrain, lends his arms to a 24 hour row-a-thon organized by crew 8 of HMS Middleton to benefit charity. (U.S. Navy photo/Chief Mass Communication Specialist Sabrina Parker)



Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Naomi VanDuser, assigned to American Forces Network Bahrain, records video of a change of command ceremony at Naval Support Activity Bahrain. (U.S. Navy photo/Chief Mass Communication Specialist Sabrina Parker)





Capt. Corey Howes, commanding officer of Naval Support Activity Bahrain presents Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Classes Rebekah David and Michael Harari, assigned to American Forces Network Bahrain, with frocking letters that authorize them to wear the rank of Petty Officer 3rd Class. (U.S. Navy photo/Chief Mass Communication Specialist Sabrina Parker)

Extras



# May the 4th be with you

Donald Ulrich, Safety Manager

The Fourth of July, one of the biggest events of the summer, can bring fun, festivities and joy; but it also fosters the risk of increased injuries, debilitations and in some cases death.

#### **Fireworks Safety**

Recently, the NFPA reported that fireworks caused more than 32,000 fires.

- 47% of the fires on the Fourth of July were started by fireworks
- 28% of fires started by sparklers were on Independence Day
- Take proper precautions when operating fireworks
- <u>PLEASE</u> never try to make your own fireworks!
- Find an area that is dry and fire resistant to light fireworks
- Point sparklers or

fireworks away from yourself or others; especially while being lit

- Never attempt to light multiple devices simultaneously
- Young children should NEVER handle fireworks or sparklers
- Have a nearby portable fire extinguisher

#### **Grilling Safety**

Safe minimum internal temperatures

- Whole poultry: 165°F
- Poultry breasts: 165°F
- Ground poultry: 165°F
- Ground meats: 160 °F
- Beef, pork, lamb, and veal: 145 °F after rest of at least 3 minutes.

#### **ME and MY FAMILY**

Natasha Boyd, DMA Benefits Specialist

When you have a change in family status, including a change in marital status, and birth or adoption of a child, you may enroll, increase your Federal Employee Health Benefit (FEHB) plan enrollment, or change from one plan or option to another. You must submit your enrollment change from 31 days before to 60 days after the change in family status.

If you have a Self and Family enrollment, you do not need to complete a new Health Benefits Election Form (SF 2809). You must contact your health plan directly to inform them of the new family member. If you have a Self Plus One enrollment, the addition of a new eligible family member allows you to increase enrollment to Self and Family in order

to cover all of your eligible family members.

If your health plan questions whether someone is an eligible family member, the health plan may ask you or the DMA Chief Human Capital Office for more information. The FEHB Handbook (https://www. opm.gov/healthcareinsurance/healthcare/ reference-materials/ fehb-handbook/) provides detailed information on who are eligible family members.

For details about family member eligibility, including any certification or documentation that may be required for coverage contact Natasha Boyd, DMA Benefits Specialist, at 301-222-6218 or DSN 773-4218 or email Natasha.d.boyd. civ@mail.mil.



Mark Weeks and his wife celebrated 40 years of service recently at DMA Headquarters. (Courtesy photo)

## Hails and Farewells

The purpose of the Hails and Farewells section is strictly informative. Inclusion or exclusion in this section is not an official notice of assignment. Always contact your local personnel office for questions or information regarding assignments.

#### **Outbound**

### Military

Staff Sgt. Adrian L. Scott, TECH SVS
Sgt. Aaron Charles Vandenberg, DINFOS
Sgt. Eric Keenan, DMO
Sgt. Cuong (Cuong) Le, DMO
Petty Officer 2nd Class Nicolas Cesar (Nico)Lopez, DMO
Sgt. 1st Class Michael L. (Mike) Sparks, DINFOS
Petty Officer 1st Class Kyle Steckler, DINFOS
Staff Sgt. Joseph Patrick (Joe) Tolliver, DINFOS
Tech. Sgt. Aaron D. Drobnack, DMO

Petty Officer 1st Class Aron (G14) Gebregziabher, SPT SVS
Tech. Sgt. Eugene O. Powers, TECH SVS
Maj. Travis Dettmer, DINFOS
Tech. Sgt. Raymond Clark, DMO
Tech. Sgt. Robin L. Manly, DMO
Lt. Col. Brian S. Choate, STRIPES
Tech. Sgt. Casey J. Martin, DMO
Senior Airman Justin R. Stokes, DMO
Sgt. Andre O. Clark, DMO
Petty Officer 1st Class Christopher Church, STRIPES

Petty Officer 1st Class Sidney Hendrickson, DMO 1st Sgt. Teresa Coble, DMO Pfc. Robert Ningen, DMO

#### Civilian

Wayne Brown, SPT SVS Tiffany Miller, DMO Randy Smith, SPT SVS Kerri Jones, DMO Angel Medina, DINFOS

#### Inbound

## Military

Petty Officer 1st Class Michael Story, DMO Petty Officer 1st Class Matthew Gorum, TECH SVS Senior Airman Nathan Eckert, DMO Petty Officer 3rd Class Douglas Parker, DMO Sgt. Kristopher Dimond, DMO Lt. Col. Eric Badger, DMO

#### Civilian

Alfred Tirado, DMO Carlton Dancy, HQ DMA/DMEO Yousef Shehadeh, DMO - AFRTS Joseph Lacdan, DMO Veronica Mangrum, DMO Keith Skelley, TECH SVS Matthew Hillborn, DMO Jack Martin, DMO Lavon Salmon, TECH SVS Rommel Boo, SPT SVS Alexandra Snyder, DMO Matthew Bogdan, DMO Laurie Wright, DVI/VI Sarah Hayden, HQ DMA/CFO Erica Cabellero, SPT SVS/Security Jarvis Clark, SPT SVS/Security Jermaine Clark, SPT SVS/Security David Desio, HO DMA